(b) The following amount of Central funds has been provided to the State of Punjab under the Minimum Needs Programme (MNP) during the current year (1996-97).

(Rs. in Crores)

Name of the Programme	1996-97
1. Elementary Education	—
2. Adult Education	0.75
3. Rural Health	—
4. Rural Water Supply	23.05
5. Rural Housing	—
6. Nutrition	8.99
7. Rural Sanitation	—
TOTAL	32.79

THE DETAILS OF ADDITIONAL CENTRAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED FOR THE STATE OF PUNJAB FOR THE BASIC MINIMUM SERVICES (BMS) DURING THE CURRENT YEAR (1996-97).

(RS. IN CRORES)

	NAME OF THE PROGRAMME	1996-97
1.	PROVISION OF SAFE DRINKING WATER IN EVERY HABITATION	6.00
2.	PROVISION OF EFFICIENT HEALTH CARE FOR EVERY GROUP OF 5000 PERSONS	
3.	PROVISION OF PUBLIC HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR SHELTERLESS POOR	3.70
4.	CONNECTING VILLAGES AND HABITATIONS WITH LINK ROADS TO THE NEAREST MARKET OR MAIN ROAD	—
5.	NUTRITION SUPPORT TO THE CHILDREN BELONGING TO THE POOR FAMILIES IN THE PRE-SCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY STAGE	2.50
6.	STREAMLINING THE PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WITH FOCUS ON POOR	—
7.	UNIVERSAL AND COMPULSORY PRIMARY EDUCATION AND MEASURES TO SPREAD LITERACY	10.00
	TOTAL:	25.59

(c) Allocations of Central funds are made at the commencement of each financial year. However, the actual releasee of funds depends upon the progress of expenditure.

Power Shortage due to Delay in Clearance of Power Projects

*279. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for fixing rates for supply of electricity to the States from the Central Pool;

(b) whether the delay or refusal to give clearance to new power projects is one of the main reasons for deficit of power in many States; and

(c) the reasons for not giving electricity to the affected States at subsidised rate by the Centre?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) The tariffs for supply of electricity to the States from the Central Sector Generating Stations of NTPC are fixed on 'Two-Part' basis viz. Fixed charge (Rupees crore/year) and Variable Charge (paise-kwh) with adjust-

ment of fuel price variation on monthly basis. The tariff for Hydro Power Stations of NHPC are on single part basis covering Annual Fixed Charge (Rs./Crore/Year).

(b) The main reasons for the deficit of power in many States, inter-alia, are resource crunch with the State Governments, financial health of SEBs, shortfall in the capacity addition, slow execution of the on-going projects, low utilisation of the existing capacity and high transmission and distribution losses in the system etc..

(c) The power is supplied by the Central Sector Generating Stations to the SEBs/States as per the tariff notification issued by the Central Government under section 43A (2) of the Electricity Supply Act, 1948 and there is no provision for any subsidised rate.

Power requirement of North-Eastern States

*280. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the requirement of electricity of Assam and other North-Eastern States, during the next five years in KWs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure generation of required quantum of electricity as per prescribed time limit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) The 15th Electrict Power Survey of India carried out by the Central Electricity Authority has assessed the requirement of electricity of Assam and other North-Eastern States from 1996-97 to 2000-01. The details are as per statement. *(See below)*

(c) The steps taken to ensure availability of required quantum of electricity include creation of additional generation capacity and improvement in operational parameters, reduction in T&D losses. Renovation and Modernisation programme at various power stations. Energy conservation and strengthening of the grid to provide for inter-state and inter-regional exchange of power.

Statement

Statewise energy requirement for North-Eastern Region

(In Million Kwh)

States	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01
	——ESTIMATED——				
Arunachal Pradesh	188	214	242	273	307
Assam	3485	3775	4132	4427	4710
Manipur	404	452	504	563	629
Meghalaya	434	473	521	561	600
Mizoram	232	270	339	396	449
Nagaland	188	203	219	235	251
Tripura	419	468	521	579	642
TOTAL	5350	5855	6478	7034	7588

BASIS: Fifteenth electric power survey of India by Central Electricity Authority, Ministry of Power Government of India, New Delhi, July-1995.